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Remarks

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 112

Claim 28 is rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 28 has been amended to delete the term "in each case". Applicant respectfully believes that this clarification overcomes the "112" rejections.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 102

Claims 21-23, 25-26, 29-31, and 35-38 are rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Buhring.

Valid rejection under 35 USC 102 requires that each feature of a rejected claim be disclosed in a single reference. "For anticipation under 35 USC 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present." MPEP 706.02(a)

Buhring shows a method and system for the transmission of data and power.

As shown in Figures 1 and 11, Buhring does not show units that are connected with the power supply in series. In contrast, Buhring's single modules are connected with the power supply in parallel. The separation module (reference 17 and 18 in Figure 11) does not disconnect the power supply for the complete bus, but separates a section or a single module only.

Claim 21 has been amended to further emphasize that the present invention includes "a connecting device for connecting the supply voltage in series to the supply voltage output". This Amendment does not add new matter. Support for "in series" is found in paragraph 1, and extensively throughout the specification.

Given this distinction, the present invention is not anticipated by Buhring.

Grewe (H)01PH0405USP US Patent Application 10/018,980
Amendment submitted in response to Office Action of 03/22/2006
Submitted on 08/17/2006 by fax with 37 CFR 1.8 certification to (571) 273 8300

BEST AVAILABLE COPYClaim Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Applicant respectfully believes that the cited documents do not give any hint to a connecting device for connecting the supply voltage input to the supply voltage output in response to an ascertaining device for ascertaining at least one electrical variable at the supply voltage output. In particular, Prendel gives only hints to switching of single basis stations in case of faults.

Consequently, the subject matter of the independent claims of the present invention should, respectfully, be patentable.

A two month extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action is hereby requested. PTO 2038 authorizing charging a credit card in the amount of \$450 is enclosed for the prescribed Large Entity two-month extension fee

Wherefore further consideration and allowance of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8 that this correspondence is being submitted to Mail Stop Amendment with Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by facsimile transmission on August 17, 2006, fax number (571) 273 8300.



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